

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Previously Presented) The refuse receptacle lifter assembly of claim 31, wherein said carrier comprises an hydraulic cylinder interposed between the base member and the beam for moving the lifter assembly between the pickup and dumping positions.
3. (Previously Presented) The refuse receptacle lifter assembly of claim 2 wherein the base member further comprises an elongated tubular member that receives the sliding member therein.
4. (Canceled)
5. (Canceled)
6. (Previously Presented) The refuse receptacle lifter assembly of claim 31 wherein said lifter support member further comprises a pair of spaced-apart, horizontally oriented beams having an outboard end to which the receptacle lifter is secured and inboard end by which the lifter support member is pivotally secured to the carrier, and an hydraulic cylinder interposed between the carrier and lifter support member for moving the receptacle lifter between the stored and operating positions.
- 7-14. (Canceled)
15. (Previously Presented) The refuse receptacle lifter assembly of claim 33, wherein said lifter support member further comprises a pair of spaced-apart, horizontally oriented beams having an outboard end to which the receptacle lifter is secured and an inboard end by which the lifter support member is pivotally secured to the carrier, and an hydraulic cylinder interposed between the carrier and lifter support member for

moving the receptacle lifter between the stored and operating positions.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) The refuse ~~receptacle lifter assembly~~ collection vehicle of claim 34, wherein said lifter support member further comprises a pair of spaced-apart, horizontally oriented beams having an outboard end to which the receptacle lifter is secured and an inboard end by which the lifter support member is pivotally secured to the carrier, and an hydraulic cylinder interposed between the carrier and lifter support member for moving the receptacle lifter between the stored and operating positions.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Previously Presented) The refuse receptacle lifter assembly of claim 35, wherein said carrier comprises an hydraulic cylinder interposed between the housing member and the sliding member for moving the lifter assembly between the pickup and dumping positions.

21. (Previously Presented) The refuse receptacle lifter assembly of claim 20 wherein the base member further comprises an elongated tubular member that receives the beam therein.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Previously Presented) The refuse receptacle lifter assembly of claim 35, wherein said lifter support member further comprises a pair of spaced-apart, horizontally oriented beams having an outboard end to which the receptacle lifter is secured and an inboard end by which the lifter support member is pivotally secured to the carrier, and

an hydraulic cylinder interposed between the carrier and lifter support member for moving the receptacle lifter between the stored and operating positions.

24-30 (Canceled)

31. (Currently Amended) A refuse receptacle lifter assembly adapted for attachment to the front end of front load refuse collection vehicles having a pair of spaced-apart lift forks that are adapted to carry a collection container of the type having a front face, a rear face, opposed sides, and an upper edge defining a generally open top forward of the vehicle for the accumulation of a quantity of refuse before dumping into a collection cavity in the vehicle, the lifter assembly comprising:

(a) a receptacle lifter for engaging, lifting and inverting refuse receptacles; and

(b) a transporter adapted to be mounted at the front of the vehicle, the transporter including a carrier comprising a base member fixedly mounted to the front of the vehicle at a location behind the rear face of the collection container and below the upper edge thereof, and an elongated beam structure movably carried by the base member and having a first end portion with a lifter support mounted thereto to which the receptacle lifter is secured, the beam structure being movable substantially linearly laterally between an extended pickup position in which the first end portion of the beam structure extends substantially beyond a side of the vehicle to said extended pick-up position to allow the lifter to engage curbside refuse receptacles and a retracted dumping position in which the lifter is located in proximity to one side of the collection container for dumping refuse from the refuse receptacle therein, said lifter support being movably attached to said beam structure so that said lifter support and said

receptacle lifter is are movable between a stored position generally adjacent to the front end of the vehicle substantially between the lift forks and an operating position spaced forwardly of the vehicle and laterally of the collection container, said lifter support being positioned generally adjacent to said ~~beam~~ structure when said receptacle lifter is in the stored position and extending generally forwardly from said carrier when said receptacle lifter is in the operating position.

32. (Currently Amended) A refuse collection vehicle system comprising:

(a) a refuse collection vehicle including a front end, a rear end, two opposed sides, a pair of spaced-apart lift forks, and a refuse receiving cavity;

(b) a collection container adapted to be carried by the lift forks of the type having a front face, a rear face, opposed sides and an upper edge defining a generally open top; and

(c) a lifter assembly carried by said vehicle at the front end thereof of the vehicle comprising:

(i) a refuse receptacle lifter for engaging, lifting, and inverting a refuse receptacle to dump the contents of the refuse receptacle into a collection container; and

(ii) a transporter located at the front end of said vehicle, said transporter including a carrier comprising a base member fixedly mounted to the front of the vehicle at a location behind the rear face of the collection container and below the upper edge thereof and an elongated ~~beam~~ structure movably carried by the base member and having a first end portion with a lifter support mounted thereto to which the receptacle lifter is secured, the ~~beam~~ structure being movable substantially

linearly laterally between a receptacle pick-up position in which the first end portion of the ~~beam~~ structure extends substantially beyond a side of the vehicle to allow said lifter to engage curbside refuse receptacles and a retracted position in which the lifter is located in proximity to a one side of the collection container for dumping refuse from the refuse receptacle therein, said carrier comprising an hydraulic cylinder operatively associated with the base member and the ~~beam~~ structure for moving the carrier between the pickup and retracted positions, said transporter further comprising the lifter support being pivotally attached to said ~~beam~~ structure so that said receptacle lifter is movable between a stored position generally adjacent to the front end of the vehicle substantially between the lift forks and an operating position spaced forwardly of the vehicle and laterally of a the collection container whereby said lifter assembly may be used to engage, lift and dump contents of curbside refuse receptacles into a front loaded collection container.

33. (Currently Amended) A refuse receptacle lifter assembly adapted for attachment to front end of front load refuse collection vehicles having a pair of spaced-apart lift forks adapted to carry a collection container of the type having a front face, a rear face, opposed sides, and an upper edge defining a generally open top forward of the vehicle for the accumulation of a quantity of refuse before dumping into a collection cavity in the vehicle, the lifter assembly comprising:

(a) a receptacle lifter for engaging, lifting and inverting refuse receptacles;

(b) a transporter adapted to be mounted at the front of the vehicle carrying the receptacle lifter, said transporter comprising a base member adapted to be fixedly

mounted to the front of the vehicle at a location behind the rear face of the collection container and below the upper edge thereof, and an elongated ~~beam~~ structure movably carried by the base member and having a first end portion with a lifter support mounted thereto to which the receptacle lifter is secured, the lifter support being movably attached to the front end of the vehicle for moving said receptacle lifter between a stored position generally adjacent to the front end of the vehicle and an operating position extending generally forwardly of the vehicle and laterally of one side of the collection container, said lifter support being positioned generally adjacent to the front end of the vehicle substantially between the lift forks when said receptacle lifter is in the stored position and generally forwardly from the front end of the vehicle and generally perpendicular to the ~~beam~~ structure when said receptacle lifter is in the operating position.

34. (Currently Amended) A refuse collection vehicle comprising:

(a) a front end, a rear end, two opposed sides, a pair of spaced-apart lift forks adapted to carry a collection container of the type having a front face, a rear face, opposed sides, and an upper edge defining a generally open top, and a refuse receiving cavity;

(b) a lifter assembly carried by said vehicle at the front end thereof comprising:

(i) a refuse receptacle lifter for engaging, lifting, and inverting a refuse receptacle to dump refuse from the refuse receptacle into a collection container; and

(ii) a transporter located at the front end of said vehicle, said transporter comprising a base member adapted to be fixedly mounted to the front of the vehicle at a location behind the rear face of the collection container and below the upper

edge thereof, and an elongated beam structure movably carried by the base member and having a first end portion with a lifter support mounted thereto to which the receptacle lifter is secured, the lifter support being movably attached to the front end of the vehicle for moving said receptacle lifter between a stored position generally adjacent to the front end of the vehicle substantially between the lift forks and an operating position generally perpendicular to the beam structure spaced forwardly of the vehicle and laterally of a the collection container, said lifter support being positioned generally adjacent to the front end of the vehicle when said receptacle lifter is in the stored position and generally forwardly from the front end of the vehicle and generally perpendicular to the beam structure when said receptacle lifter is in the operating position.

35. (Currently Amended) A refuse receptacle lifter assembly adapted for attachment to the front end of front load refuse collection vehicles having a pair of spaced-apart lift forks adapted to carry a collection container of the type having a front face, a rear face, opposed sides, and an upper edge defining a generally open top forward of the vehicle for the accumulation of a quantity of refuse before dumping into a collection cavity in the vehicle, the lifter assembly comprising:

(a) a receptacle lifter for engaging, lifting and inverting refuse receptacles;

(b) a transporter adapted to be mounted in a generally transverse position at the front of the vehicle, the transporter including a carrier comprising a base member fixedly mounted to the front of the vehicle at a location behind the rear face of the collection container and below the upper edge thereof, and an elongated beam

structure movably carried by the base member and having a first end portion with a lifter support mounted thereto to which the receptacle lifter is secured, the beam structure being and movable substantially ~~linearly~~ laterally between an extended pick-up position in which the first end portion of the beam structure extends substantially beyond a side of the vehicle to allow the lifter to engage a curbside refuse receptacle and a retracted position in which the lifter is located in proximity to one side of the collection container for dumping refuse from the refuse receptacle therein; said lifter support being movably attached to said beam structure for moving between a stored position generally adjacent to the front end of the vehicle substantially between the lift forks and an operating position extending generally forwardly of the vehicle and laterally of the collection container.